



## Submarine PXO Detailing Information

(Updated: Jan 18, 2013)

1. **Your Detailer:** The Post-DH Detailer remains your detailer until you are slated for XO. Work with him to determine which Submarine Command Course (SCC) you will attend based on your PRD and career timing gate.
  - A. The Post-DH Detailer provides the list of PXOs for each SCC 6-8 months prior to the course convening date, which is typically the first week in January, April, July, and October.
  - B. ***Once you are screened for XO, ensure that your detailer has your up-to-date contact information and discuss with him when you expect to start the XO pipeline.***
2. **The Process:**
  - A. Once the class is finalized the XO detailer will contact you. With that contact he will provide details about the slate including rough schedule and other process details. Most importantly, he will provide you with a template intended to solicit your preferences and inputs in support of the slating process.
  - B. The submarines on your slate are determined based on XO PRDs, ship schedules, and wardroom planning conferences.  
(Note: There is a 3-month interlock between CO and XO reliefs.)
  - C. As part of PXO slating, billets that are expected to be filled from that class will be provided with the first contact from the XO detailer.
  - D. The nominal XO tour length is 20 months, but tour lengths ranging from 18 to 24 months are not unusual. In some cases, XOs have done tours as long as 29 months, but this is a rare occurrence.
  - E. When slating PXOs, every effort is made to balance:
    - i. PXO desires
    - ii. PXO professional development/career needs
    - iii. Needs of the Navy.
  - F. The following considerations factor into the PXO slating process to achieve that balance with the ultimate goal of preparing each officer for command of any of boat that may be on his CO slate:
    - i. **Engineering background.** Either the CO or the XO must be an Engineer-served officer. The lack of excess Engineer-served officers, with few exceptions, will preclude the assignment of an Engineer-served XO and CO on the same submarine. (Note: SSGN COs are Engineer-served



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based on previous CO tour.)

- ii. Tactical experience. The Submarine Force's policy is to provide each officer with forward-deployed mission experience (deploying SSN or SSGN) and strategic deterrent patrol experience (SSBN) prior to his command tour.
- iii. Operational vs. shipyard experience. Significant effort is expended to prevent officers from doing multiple shipyard-intensive sea tours.

- G. Once initial PXO slating is complete, an extensive review process within both PERS 42 and Naval Reactors begins. It is not uncommon for assignments to change during this review process, so PXO assignments are held close hold until all reviews are complete and approvals received. Expect to wait at least 6 weeks from the start of the slating process until you are informed of your assignment. Please trust during that time that the process is being actively driven and latency prevented throughout.
- H. Orders are generally transmitted about two weeks after assignment approval, which is normally about 4 months prior to your transfer. Fiscal constraints can cause delays in orders release.

3. **PXO Timing Gates:** Meeting career gates is a critical element to preserving competitiveness for career progression and promotion. It is critical that you keep the lines of communication open with PERS 421A, and keep yourself informed on the latest with respect to career timing metrics and milestones.

- A. Gate (to start SCC): July of 12 YCS

4. **Training Pipeline:** The following schools are required as part of the PXO training pipeline:

- A. SCC: 9 weeks in either Pearl Harbor (January and July class) or Groton (April and October class). SCC is an intensive, decision-rich, tactically advanced course designed to produce officers who consistently demonstrate superior decision making. All briefs and lectures used during the course are available for review via the NKO-S portal. (Log on to NKO-S and select the NKO-S library link at the top of the page; click on "communities," "submarine learning," and "Submarine Command Course.") Additional course material is available on the COMSUBFOR and COMSUBPAC SIPRNET websites.
- B. Command Leadership Course (CLC): 2 weeks in Newport, normally just before or just after SCC. Additional information, including CLC convening dates, is available at <https://www.netc.navy.mil/centers/cppd/clc/>.



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- C. PCO/PXO Strategic Weapons Course (for SSBN XOs only): 5 weeks primarily in Bangor or Kings Bay. The course also includes brief trips to Strategic Systems Programs (SSP) in Washington, DC and USSTRATCOM in Omaha, NE. The course curriculum was recently updated.
- D. Advanced Weapons System (AWS) Command Course (for SSGN XOs only): 1 week in Kings Bay.

### 5. Orders/Travel:

- A. Rental cars. PERS 42 is authorized to pay for one rental car per four students. Rental cars are preferentially assigned to those officers who are coming from overseas, etc. Once the PXO slate is approved, the rental car plan will be provided.
- B. Intermediate stops. The Navy's policy is that official travel is only authorized/reimbursed between military obligations. However, intermediate stops can be inserted in your orders to minimize leave days or to travel as long as it is cost effective. For example, there is frequently one to two weeks between SCC and CLC. In some cases, it is less expensive to pay for travel back to your permanent duty station than it would be for you to spend an additional week earning Pearl Harbor, Groton, or Newport per diem. If you desire an intermediate stop in your orders, contact the XO detailee after assignment notification and preferably before orders are issued. All intermediate stops are considered on a case-by-case basis and must be approved by the Navy Personnel Command chain of command.
- C. Travel. Arrange your travel and rental cars through SATO once you have orders. A Letter of Intent CANNOT be used for travel arrangements.
- D. Entitlements. PSD (at your current or ultimate duty station) is the best source of information for questions regarding pay, entitlements, travel allowances, etc.

### 6. Additional Information:

- A. XO detailing is significantly less volatile than DH detailing, but changes occur. Please keep your contact information current, and check with the XO detailee before taking any action that would need to be re-considered if changes should occur (e.g., buying a house or moving your family).
- B. Command qualifications must be complete prior to starting SCC. We track this at PERS 42. If your command qualifications are not complete, let the Post-DH Detailee know prior to the start of the PXO detailing process. Not



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being command qualified will prevent you from starting the PXO training pipeline.

- C. Verify/update your security clearance data 6-8 months prior to SCC. This will cause problems at SCC if not squared away.

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M. R. SMITH